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7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
8 WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
AT SEATTLE

9 JUSTIN EDWARD LEWIS,

10 Plaintiff,

11 v.

12 ETHAN GREEN,

13 Defendant.

CASE NO. C17-0211-TSZ-MAT

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION

14  
15 INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY CONCLUSION

16 Plaintiff proceeds pro se and *in forma pauperis* in this 42 U.S.C. § 1983 civil rights action.  
17 Defendant Ethan Green moves for dismissal under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 41(b) due to  
18 plaintiff's failure to provide the Court, defendant, or the Department of Corrections (DOC) with  
19 his current address. (Dkt. 13.) Defendant asks that the dismissal be with prejudice. The Court,  
20 for the reasons set forth below, concludes this matter should be dismissed without prejudice.

21 At the time of filing and as of the Court's July 6, 2017 pretrial scheduling order, plaintiff  
22 was incarcerated at the Monroe Correctional Complex (MCC) Special Offender Unit. The Court's  
23 scheduling order set a September 7, 2017 deadline for the completion of discovery and October

1 10, 2017 deadline for the filing of dispositive motions. (Dkt. 12.) The scheduling order indicated  
2 that failure to comply with its provisions could result in dismissal/default judgment or other  
3 appropriate sanction. (*Id.* at 3.)

4 As set forth in the motion to dismiss, and a supportive declaration and documentation, the  
5 DOC transferred plaintiff from MCC to community custody on July 11, 2017. (Dkt. 14 at 2, 8.)  
6 Although directed to report to his assigned community corrections office on or about July 21, 2017,  
7 plaintiff did not report and his whereabouts remain unknown since at least that date. A warrant  
8 for plaintiff's arrest and detention issued on July 20, 2017 and remains in effect. (*Id.* at 3.)

9 Pursuant to Local Civil Rule (LCR) 41(b)(2), a plaintiff is required to keep the Court and  
10 opposing parties advised as to his current address. "If mail directed to a pro se plaintiff by the  
11 clerk is returned by the Postal Service, or if email is returned by the internet service provider, and  
12 if such plaintiff fails to notify the court and opposing parties within 60 days thereafter of his or her  
13 current mailing or email address, the court may dismiss the action without prejudice for failure to  
14 prosecute." LCR 41(b)(2). A defendant may move for dismissal based on a failure to prosecute  
15 or failure to comply with the rules of civil procedure or a court order. Fed. R. Civ. P. 41(b). In  
16 addition, a district court has the inherent authority to manage its docket and may exercise its  
17 discretion to dismiss an action if a plaintiff fails to diligently pursue his or her case. *Henderson v.*  
18 *Duncan*, 779 F.2d 1421, 1423 (9th Cir. 1986). The court considers: (1) the public's interest in  
19 expeditious resolution of litigation; (2) the need to manage the court's docket; (3) risk of prejudice  
20 to defendants; (4) public policy favoring disposition of cases on their merits; and (5) availability  
21 of less drastic sanctions. *Id.* (cited cases omitted).

22 Plaintiff has not informed the Court or defendant of his current address. Although there  
23 has been no returned mail, more than sixty days have elapsed since plaintiff's July 11, 2017 release

1 from MCC and transfer to a new address. The discovery deadline has expired and no action has  
2 been taken in this case since the Court issued its July 6, 2017 scheduling order. Given plaintiff's  
3 failure to keep the Court and defendant apprised of his current address, and the resulting inability  
4 of either defendant or the Court to move forward with this case, the Court recommends defendant's  
5 motion to dismiss (Dkt. 13) be GRANTED, and this case DISMISSED for failure to prosecute.  
6 To allow for the possibility that plaintiff's claims could be considered on the merits and given the  
7 less drastic nature of the sanction, the Court recommends this dismissal be without prejudice. A  
8 proposed Order accompanies this Report and Recommendation.<sup>1</sup>

9 DEADLINE FOR OBJECTIONS

10 Objections to this Report and Recommendation, if any, should be filed with the Clerk and  
11 served upon all parties to this suit within **twenty-one (21) days** of the date on which this Report  
12 and Recommendation is signed. Failure to file objections within the specified time may affect  
13 your right to appeal. Objections should be noted for consideration on the District Judge's motions  
14 calendar for the third Friday after they are filed. Responses to objections may be filed within  
15 **fourteen (14) days** after service of objections. If no timely objections are filed, the matter will be  
16 ready for consideration by the District Judge on **October 13, 2017**.

17 DATED this 20th day of September, 2017.

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20 Mary Alice Theiler  
21 United States Magistrate Judge  
22

23 <sup>1</sup> Because the Court has no current address for plaintiff, the Clerk is directed to send this Report  
and Recommendation to the DOC's listed address for plaintiff: 1912 Eastside Street, Olympia, WA 98501.